

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH  
60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80  
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**March 19, 2004**

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION  
FOR WEEK ENDING 20-Mar-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK
	03/20/04	03/13/04
BRO-FRY	157,909	157,083
LT HENS	1,298	1,381
HVY HENS	1,324	1,398

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA**

WEEK ENDING 13-Mar-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	377	0	377
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
LAST WEEK	78	0	78
SAME WEEK YR AGO	190	3	193
TO-DATE/2004	2,371	29	2,400
TO-DATE/2003	3,344	49	3,393

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,721	1,165	2,886
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS			
Last Week	1,207	1,250	2,457
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,748	1,359	3,107
TO-DATE/2004	15,108	12,675	27,783
TO-DATE/2003	19,971	13,693	33,664

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION**

WEEK ENDING 13-Mar-04 (THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	157,179	1,344	1,165	2,509
AVG WT	5.06	3.43	8.15	5.62
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS				
LAST WEEK	153,459	1,129	1,250	2,379
SAME WK YR AGO	151,337	1,558	1,356	2,914
AVG WT	5.23	3.49	8.18	5.50
TO-DATE/2004	1,536,632	12,737	12,646	25,383
TO-DATE/2003	1,502,010	16,627	13,644	30,271

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 157.0 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 159.1 million head or 2.1 million head more than or 101% of estimated fryers available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,  
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 06-Mar-2004

(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE 4.20 LBS & DOWN	(B) RETAIL 4.21-5.25 LBS	(C) DEBONING 5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	25,738	21,046	49,219
Avg Weight	3.80	4.72	6.93
% of total /1	27%	22%	51%
Last week	30,710	21,166	49,163
Avg Weight	3.61	4.78	6.31
% of total /1	30%	21%	49%
Same week, yr ago /2	21,171	20,312	47,467
Avg Weight	3.72	4.85	6.47
% of total /1	24%	23%	53%
To date/2004	227,293	191,472	383,146
To date/2003	205,970	186,349	390,357

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 13-Mar-04  
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,646	2,589	70	7	4,312
AVG WT	15.95	36.37	25.55	23.16	28.38
HEAD SLTR COMPARISONS					
LAST WEEK	1,729	2,515	73	24	4,341
SAME WK YR AGO	1,736	2,757	46	25	4,564
AVG WT	15.88	36.34	25.63	31.97	28.42
TO-DATE/2004	16,843	24,580	423	88	41,934
TO-DATE/2003	17,189	26,282	620	146	44,237

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.